(e) Does not arise in view of the reply to part (c) and (d) above.

Increase in the write taff limit of bad debts by banks

115. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAM. BHAJIRAQ SHINDE; SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA.
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a, fact that Commercial Banks have been allowed to write on: individual bad debts to the tune of Rs. 25 lacs in place of Rs 25,000/- only, as at present;

(b) if so the reasons for the ten limes increase in this limit; and,

(c) the steps contemplated to Prevent misuse *at* the enchanced limit facility to the detriment of the public interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR; MURTHY); (a) Reserve Bank of In dia. has reported that no such in-struction have been issued to com-mercial banks.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in vlew of the reply to (a) above.

Representation received from leather Chemicals Manufacturers" Association

116. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAM-BHAJ1RAO SHINDE:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU;

Will the Minister of FINANCE; be I pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a representation has been received from Leather Chemicals Manufactu rers? Association about the adverse impact of Tebration in Import duties on finished products and increase in excise duties on indigenous products;

(b) if so, what was their precise plea and what is the difference in average prices of indigenous pro ducts and corresponding imported items, inclusive of all duties: arid costs involved in imports; and

(c) what is the Government's res ponse thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

} (b) The Association has requested for the following changes;

(i) imposition of Countervailing duty on leather chemicals specified in Notification No. 45/94.Custom3 dated the 1st March, 1994.

(iij To allow import of raw materials and intermediates for manufacture of leather chemicals at concessional rates of import duty; and

(iii) Restriction on impor$_t$ of leather chemicals and their raw materials to actual userg through appropriate control mechanism.

As per information readily available, the reported prices in respect of some of the leather chemicals are given in the enclosed Statement. *(See below)*

(c) That matter is tinder exami nation. . i.